

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 14, 2003

LB 407

decisions, and I think they've done that. But we talked about a wholesale change to their plan yesterday for many hours, and I think we had fair and good discussion and I think fair consideration was given to the idea. And as I told the sponsor of the amendment, parts of that idea will come to fruition in this plan before we're done. And that's what this is all about. There's a lot of frustration in this body about areas that we have not cut very much or even given increases to, such as corrections, when we're just destroying parts of education and destroying programs that have proven to be effective and needy programs, and that's what we're doing. And so to be surprised that this body would take a bold suggestion like we did last night should...it should not be a surprise. We need to do some aggressive things and we need to do some of those in corrections. And whether or not that's the right answer or not, I certainly don't know, and I'm sure...I know we have a reconsideration motion coming and that isn't what I wanted to address. What I wanted to address was that I think, as a body, we're here to deliberate everything and anything, and if the Governor, the Auditor, the Secretary of State or anybody else has an idea about how we can bring some of these things under control and make improvements, they are more than welcome to come at any time and discuss those with us. And I think if...I think we'll do the best work for the people if we accept the fact that we're all doing what we think is right, and we certainly have a right to disagree with that, but we're not trying to do it in a mean sense or intimidate anyone, and I hope that no one in here feels that way. Because if there's any broken arms or stifled discussion, it would be in here. It wouldn't be outside the body. And so if anyone feels that way, please, please let us know and we'll try to deal with that. But in any event, I present this idea to you because I think we've got to go here. It's not places I want to go, but I think we have to. And so I'd be glad to offer this, see what the body thinks about it. This will not...I do not believe this will be the end of all ends as far as the budget, but it's a pretty big step to get to where I think a lot of people think we got to get to in order to make this thing balance. So thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. You've heard the